

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 TRSE-00 /082 W  
-----231139 010293 /13

R 230930Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6905  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
AMEMBASSY GABERONE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY MASERU  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 0819

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, EFIN, MZ, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA-MOZAMBIQUE MINE WAGE AGREEMENT NOT  
BEING RENEGOTIATED.

REF: MAPUTO 49 (NOTAL)

1. MAPUTO REPORTED IN REFTEL THAT, IN ABSENCE OF NEW  
AGREEMENT ON MOZAMBIQUE MINeworkers IN SOUTH AFRICA, SOUTH  
AFRICA WOULD PAY PERCENTAGE OF WAGES AT WORLD MARKET PRICE  
OF GOLD RATHER THAN \$42 AN OUNCE.

2. QUESTION WAS ASKED IN SA PARLIAMENT FEB 11 OF WHETHER  
AGREEMENT IS BEING RENEGOTIATED. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID NO.  
PRESS REPORTED RESERVE BANK SPOKESMAN AS ADDING "IT IS SAFE  
TO ASSUME THAT WHEN GOLD RESERVES ARE REVALUED AND OFFICIAL  
PRICE OF GOLD IS NOT LONGER RELEVANT, SHIPMENTS OF  
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BULLION TO MOZAMBIQUE WILL TAKE PLACE ON BASIS OF A FREE  
MARKET VALUATION." OFFICIAL OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPT  
REFUSED TO ELABORATE ON THESE STATEMENTS TO EMBASSY  
OFFICER.

3. WE DO NOT HAVE TEXT OF MOZAMBIQUE-SA CONVENTION ON  
MINE LABOR PAYMENTS, BUT SEEMS PROBABLE ABOLITION OF

OFFICIAL GOLD PRICE BY IMF HAS PROVIDED SAG AND MINEOWNERS  
WITH A LEGAL WAY OUT OF PROBLEM.

4. IN RECENT COMMENTS TO MINERALS OFFICER, OFFICER OF GOLD FIELDS  
OF SA LTD. GAVE BACKGROUND OF MINE LABOR SITUATION WHICH MAY  
HELP EXPLAIN SA HARDLINE ATTITUDE ON MOZAMBIQUE AGREEMTN. SAID  
BOTH GOLD FIELDS AND ANGLO-AMERICAN HAVE 110-120 PERCENT  
OF WORKERS THEY REALLY NEED, IN PART BECAUSE MANY GOLD MINES ARE  
IN PROCESS OF RETOOLING UNDERGROUND MINING METHODS AIMED AT  
LARGER OFFTAKE OF URANIUM. HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN  
ATTRACTING LOCAL SA WORKERS BECAUSE OF GROWING UNEMPLOYMENT  
AND INCREASED ABILITY TO OFFER FAMILY HOUSING FOR MINERS WITH  
ONE-TWO YEARS EXPERIENCE. (OFFICIALLY, ONLY 3 PERCENT OF  
MINERS, THOSE IN SUPERVISORY GRADES, ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE  
FAMILIES ON SITE BUT GOVT FAILED TO TAKE ACTION EITHER WAY  
ON MINE COMPANIES' REQUESTS TO BUILD MORE HOUSING AND IS  
TURNING A BLIND EYE TO VIOLATIONS). IMPLICATIONS OF  
SITUATION ARE THAT MINERS FROM BLS COUNTRIES AND MOZAMBIQUE  
WILL BE REDUCED BY ATTRITION AS PRESENT CONTRACT EXPIRE.  
BOWDLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAGE RATES, GOLD MINING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PRETOR00819  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MAPUTO 49  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3252542  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOUTH AFRICA-MOZAMBIQUE MINE WAGE AGREEMENT NOT BEING RENEGOTIATED.  
**TAGS:** ELAB, EFIN, MZ, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/be2861c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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